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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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German Democratic Republic/Poland

POLISH-SOVIET INFLUENCE AT THE STALIN METALLURGICAL COMBINE

are an increasing number of indications pointing to continuously greater Polish-Soviet influence at the Fuerstenberg plant.

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it is planned to construct a steel bridge below Fuerstenberg which will serve both railroad and highway traffic. Since the Poles are converting the road from Cybinka (Ziebingen) to the Oder outworks (Vorwerk) into a class I highway, it can be assumed that the planned Oder bridge will connect with this highway. Since grading work is being done near and parallel to this road it can be assumed with certainty that the branch line, of the Frankfurt/Oder - Rzepin (Reppen) main line, to Cybinka will be extended beyond Ziebingen and across the Oder river where it will connect with the GDR Reichsbahn main line Frankfurt/Oder - Guben. In any case, there has been great activity of civilian and military personnel in the area between Rapice (Rampitz) and Cybinka, on the right side of the Oder river since the beginning of 1954, whereas at the end of 1953 there was hardly any traffic noticeable in that area. At the time construction of the EKS (Stalin Metallurgical Combine) was started, GDR observers considered it strange that EKS was situated directly at the German-Polish "peace border". As construction of the EKS proceeded, the tendency to build "toward the East" (oestlich auszurichten) became more and more apparent. Among the workers of the EKS one can hear the opinion voiced that the EKS may possibly become another "Swinemünde" case. This means that here, too, a "correction" of the natural boundary could be made in western direction. This is bound to happen if a reunification of the GDR and the German Federal Republic is to take place, in which case the Oder-Neisse border must definitely be accepted as the Eastern boundary line of a unified Germany.

It is also noticeable that within the labor force of the EKS, as well as within the leading intelligentsia and the technician force, the number of Slavik workers, who usually speak German very well, is on a slow but steady increase. This takes place without reducing the actual number of German workers, because the labor force is increasing as the EKS combine is being constructed. In this manner the percentage of Eastern influence rises unobtrusively.

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